

Message Text

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51

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-15 IO-13 DPW-01 OMB-01 RSR-01 /128 W

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R 221254 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1795

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USIA WASHDC

USSAG

CINCPAC

UNCLAS PHNOM PENH 6215

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PINS CB

SUBJECT: NEWSPAPER COMMENT ON RELEASE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS

REF: PHNOM PENH 6106

1. THE ARMY NEWSPAPER RUOM KAMLANG CARRIED THE FOLLOWING
COMMENT ON THE RELEASE OF THE 27 POLITICAL PRISONERS
(REFTEL) IN ITS EDITION OF JUNE 22:

2. (QUOTE) THE IMPORTANT POLITICAL PRISONERS ARRESTED
AND IMPRISONED SINCE THE EVENTS OF MARCH 18,1970 WERE
JUST RELEASED LAST WEEK FOLLOWING A DECISION OF THE
HIGH POLITICAL COUNCIL UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF
MARSHAL LON NOL.

3. (QUOTE) AND EVERYONE IS NOW ASKING HIMSELF WHY THESE
RELEASES HAVE TAKEN PLACE.

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4. (QUOTE) IN OUR OPINION THE RELEASES CONSTITUTE AN INDICATION OF AN EFFORT TO UNITE KHMER OF ALL POLITICAL TENDENCIES IN ORDER TO FIGHT TOGETHER AGAINST THE VIETNAMESE COMMUNIST AGGRESSORS. THE GOAL IS TO CONTRIBUTE TO INDEPENDENCE, NATIONAL UNITY, TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND TO BRING ABOUT THE PARTICIPATION OF ALL KHMER IN NATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION.

5. (QUOTE) THE RELEASE ALSO HAVE THE GOAL OF CONTRIBUTING TO THE RETURN OF PEACE TO THE COUNTRY. THE EVOLUTION OF THE NATIONAL SITUATION IS SUCH THAT WE CAN NO LONGER REMAIN INDIFFERENT TO THE FACT THAT THE GREAT POWERS ARE JOINING EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE WORLD PEACE. WE ARE THUS CONVINCED THAT THIS LIBERATION OF POLITICAL PRISONERS WILL AWAKEN THE CONSCIENCE OF THE KHMER, WHO SHOULD NO LONGER ALLOW THE VIETNAMESE COMMUNISTS TO TRANSFORM THEIR WAR OF AGGRESSION INTO A CIVIL WAR AMONG KHMER. (UNQUOTE)
SWANK

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TAGS: PINS, CB
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SECSTATE WASHDC
USIA

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